

Message Text

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72

ACTION SS-25

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----- 021020

R 311020Z MYA 75
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C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 01320

EXDIS

DEPT PLS PASS TOSEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, SU

SUBJECT: ARAB/ISRAELI ISSUE; GOS CRITICISM PALESTINIANS

. DURING SESSION WITH FONOFF USEC MIRGHANI MAY 31, HE
REFERRED TO PRESIDENT'S COMING MEETING WITH SADAT AND
SAID THAT HE HOPED PROGRESS WOULD BE MADE TO RESOLVE
UNDERLYING PROBLEM. ARAB GOVERNMENTS WERE "FED UP" WITH
PALESTINE QUESTION AND PALESTINIANS GM LATTER RERE ALWAYS
ARRIVING WITHOUT VISAS AND OTHERWISE ACTING AS IF USUAL
REGULATIONS OF ARAB STATES DID NOT APPLY TO THEM. THEY
HIJACKED INNOCENT PEOPLE WHICH HURT REPUTATION ALL ARABS IN
EYES WORLD. MOREOVER, ANY RENEWED FIGHTING WOULD BE MUCH
HARDER ON ARAB ARMIES, INCLUDING SUDANESE (WHO HAVE CONTINGENT
ALONG CANAL) THAN FOR PALESTINIANS "WHO WOULD GO INTO HIDING."
MIRGHANI SAID THAT HE WAS SURE SADAT FELT THE SAME WAY BUT
COULD NOT SAY SO. AS LONG AS PALESTINIANS COULD POSE AS
PEOPLE DENIED THEIR HOMELAND, OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENTS HAD TO
SUPPORT THEM UNCRITICALLY. ONCE ARRANGEMENTS WERE OFFERED,
HOWEVER, WHICH GUARANTEED PALESTINIANS A PLACE OF THEIR OWN
ON WEST BANK, THEN OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE ONLY TOO
HAPPY TO FORGET ABOUT THEM. MOREOVER, ARAB PUBLIC OPINION
WOULD CEASE TO BE AUTOMATICALLY PREDISPOSED TOWARD THEM.
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2. MIRGHANI THEN SAID THAT HE HAD GRAVE DOUBTS THAT GENEVA
CONFERENCE COULD OF COURE ASSEMBLE TO RATIFY DECISIONS REACHED.
AMBASYTDOR REPLIED THAT MIRGHANI'S COMMENTS CLOSELY PARALLELED
OUR OWN VIEWS. WE WERE, HOWYXER, PREPARED GO TO GENEVA IF
PARTIES SO WISHED9 AMBASSADOR COMMENTED PERSONALLY THAT
SETTLEMENT WOULD REQUIRE MORE FLEXIBILITY ON PART BOTH ISRAEL
AND PALESTNIANS THAN EITHER HAD EVINCED PUBLICLY SO FAR.
HOWEVER, THERE WERE INDICATIONS, INCLUDING COMMENTS IN
AMERICAN PRESS, WHICH SUGGESTED THAT ALL HANDS WERE BEGINNING
VIEW ISSUE IN MORE REALISTIC TZJMF. MIRGHANI SAID HE
CERTAINLY HOPED SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND IN ORDER THAT
ARAB COUNTRIES, NOTABLY EGYPT, WOULD NO LONGER NEED TO CARRY
CRUSHING MILITARY BURDEN.
BREWER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TOSEC.

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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